

## State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

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## GOV. EASLEY REAPPOINTS SPECIAL SUPERIOR COURT JUDGES TENNILLE AND TRAWICK

**RALEIGH** - Gov. Mike Easley has reappointed Special Superior Court Judges Ben F. Tennille of Winston-Salem and Gary E. Trawick of Burgaw to five-year terms.

"Judge Tennille has served the citizens and business community of our state well," Easley said. "He has demonstrated his ability to handle complex corporate and business issues. He also created the state's first business court, which has become a national model.

"Likewise, Judge Trawick has worked tirelessly to be a fair and impartial Special Superior Court Judge. He brings a broad base of experience and knowledge to the bench, and his dedication has gained him an outstanding reputation."

Tennille was appointed in 1996 by Gov. James B. Hunt as the first Special Superior Court Judge for complex business cases in North Carolina. Prior to his original appointment as a Special Superior Court Judge, he served as a partner with Smith Moore Smith Schell & Hunter in Greensboro.

Tennille serves on the American Bar Association's Corporate Responsibility Taskforce and is chair of the Business and Commercial Court committee of the National Conference of State Trial Judges. He received his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Trawick began his judicial career in 1990 when he was elected to the newly created Superior Court seat in the 5<sup>th</sup> Judicial District. In 1998, Gov. Hunt appointed him as a Special Superior Court Judge. While practicing law and serving as a Special Superior Court Judge, Trawick worked with a number of legal organizations and published numerous articles in magazines and newspapers.

Trawick has been recognized as Trial Judge of the Year by N.C. Academy of Trial Lawyers. He received his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

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